Appl. No. 09/757,327 Amdt. Dated September 16, 2004 Reply to Office Action of June 16, 2004

Please replace the abstract, with the following amended abstract:

A CAN module is characterized in that it contains several sets of storage elements for storing several sets of data representing different states of components of the CAN module. In this way, the For example, a single bit stream processor component, one of the largest and most complicated constituents of the CAN module, can be used for a plurality of CAN buses when data representations of the different states of the bit stream processor are stored in the sets of storage elements. The CAN module can be used as a shared CAN module for several CAN buses and/or CAN nodes with only a minimal expenditure required.